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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

pplicant: Jeffrey W. House et al.

Examiner:

N/A

Serial No.:

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Group Art

3506

Unit:

Filed:

Herewith

Docket No.:

4183.4USC1

Title:

METHOD OF SEALING A MANHOLE RISER AND A CATCH BASIN

AND APPARATUS FOR SAME

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please cancel claims 2-25.

Please add the following new claims:

--26. A method for sealing a manhole riser of the type having a top adjusting rim and a bottom adjusting rim, the manhole riser having a height defined from the base of the bottom adjusting ring to the top edge of the top adjusting ring, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a band of elastomeric material, said band having a height at least equal to the height of the manhole riser;
- (b) placing said band over the manhole riser and positioning the bottom edge of said band proximate the base of the manhole riser and securing a top edge of said band to the top adjusting ring of said manhole riser, wherein said band includes

ON !